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Bonner General Health: Good Stewardship of the 340B Program

About Us

Bonner General Health's mission is to serve our community by providing excellent care close to home. Bonner General Hospital is a 25-bed Critical Access Hospital (CAH) which includes a healthcare network of outpatient clinics and services serving Sandpoint, all of Bonner County, and the surrounding region. CAHs are an essential part of rural communities. Bonner General is often the only source of health care in our vulnerable community and serves a crucial safety net role for the elderly, low- income, uninsured, and other underserved populations, many of whom may face financial and/or travel barriers that restrict their ability to seek care outside our community. Because of our Critical Access designation, Bonner General is eligible to participate in the 340B Program.

Definition of 340B

The 340B Drug Pricing Program is a federal program created in 1992 that requires drug manufacturers participating in the Medicaid drug rebate program to provide covered outpatient drugs to enrolled participants at a significant discount. The purpose of the 340B Program is to permit participants to stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services. This program is provided without cost to the taxpayer.

Benefits of the 340B Program

Bonner General uses savings from the 340B Drug Program to help provide a variety of services to help care for the most at risk in our community. 340B savings also support Bonner General Health's ability to provide services to under- and uninsured patients, regardless of their ability to pay. We use 340B savings to keep our doors open so we can continue to provide vital services to our community. This year, we were able to add Ophthalmology and Family Practice clinics to our list of existing services, which includes an Emergency Department (level 3 trauma center), Hospice, Intensive Behavioral Therapy, Medical Surgical Unit, Intensive Care Unit, Women's Health, and Surgical Services, among others. By the end of February 2021, BGH had administered 4,319 COVID vaccination doses. Our staff is donating their time and skills to vaccinate and keep our community safe and healthy by running our Vaccine Clinic without compensation. We also offer a drive thru COVID testing site.

Our 2019 Community Needs Assessment identified several areas of need. Bonner General is committed to meet the healthcare needs of our community. Some services provided include:

- Childbirth Education Classes
- Adult Grief Support Groups
- Better Breathers Club Support Group
- Parents Grieving the Loss of a Child Support Group
- Parkinson's Support Group
- Participation in Food for Our Children Program
- Kinderhaven and CASA sponsor
- Participate and support CAST: Coping and Support Training

Impact of Scaling Back the 340B Program

Each year new legislation is introduced that if passed and enacted would threaten the 340B Program and its original intent. Scaling back the 340B Program would jeopardize Bonner General Health's capacity to offer this variety of free services to our patients. Like other similar hospitals and healthcare networks, 340B savings are vital to the continuum of care we offer our community. Bonner General is an active advocate for the preservation of the 340B Program and is committed to transparency, integrity, and compliance.

340B By The Numbers

340B Charitable Savings 2020	\$927,347.00
Charity Care 2020	\$619,024.00
Uncompensated Care 2020	\$3,262,119.00

Patient Info

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Visitors

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Contact Us

In an emergency, call 911

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